

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

## BANDIT SHOTS UP CAFE

East Bridgeport Man, Failing to Understand Command of "Hands Up!" is Shot Twice By Robber, and Twice By Man Who Rushed Into Scene Mistaking Him For Assailant.

Masked Intruder Flees When Brother of Saloon-keeper Rushes Into Scene of Shooting and Opens Fire Upon Patron Already Wounded By Bandit—Victim Will Recover.

Attacked by a masked robber who held up the occupants of a saloon soon after 5 o'clock this morning, and mistaken at the same time by a just-awakened relative of the owner for the robber, John Petro, aged about 50, of 568 Crescent avenue in the Bridgeport hospital in a precarious condition because bullets were pumped into him both by the intruder and by the saloon's defender.

Petro, who is the father of four, was shot twice by the robber and twice by William Rehak, a brother of Thomas Rehak, who conducts the saloon at 189 Willard street. Two bullets entered his groin, one his right wrist and the fourth his back.

As a continuation of the daylight crimes that have terrorized citizens on the streets in all parts of the city, the Rehak saloon was "shot up" in western style at 5:40 o'clock this morning.

A masked man, whose apparently coarse face was shielded except for the mouth and eyes by a red handkerchief, pushed through the front door of the saloon and stood in the doorway. In his right hand he carried a revolver and it was leveled so that it covered the proprietor, behind the bar and Petro, who was drinking a glass of beer.

"Hands up!" commanded the stranger.

The proprietor's hands went up, but Petro didn't comply as he didn't understand. Two shots blazed at him. He yelled, "I'm shot," in his native tongue. The room filled with smoke. Rehak didn't take down his hands.

William Rehak, brother of the man behind the bar, was asleep in an adjoining room. He was awakened by the noise and he sleepily peeped through the doorway.

His brother was standing behind the bar, looking terrified, and holding his hands far above his head. A stranger was standing in front of the bar, making wild motions, the promptings of agony, but William mistook them for menaces at his brother.

He pulled a revolver from a pocket. He shot twice at Petro. The masked man in the doorway ran. The man behind the bar yelled to his brother to cease firing and Petro dropped to the floor with four wounds.

The police authorities were notified. Policeman John Dempsey searched the neighborhood for the robber without success. The ambulance was called and Petro was taken to the Bridgeport hospital, where the bullets were removed.

While Petro is dangerously injured he may recover as the bullets didn't penetrate any vital organ.

The Rehak brothers say the intruder was about 23 years old, five feet, five inches high, slim of build and smooth of face. He wore dark clothing and a dark cap.

Residents of the South End are complaining that a bang on Railroad avenue is wielding knives on very night pretexts. Police supervision is asked.

The saloon holdup is a sequel to one at Warren street and South avenue, Saturday, the one that occurred a few minutes before the Mondrevsky murder and near the scene of it and the holdup of an aged pedestrian near the Bridgeport Brass Co. on East Main street, Friday night.

Petro has told the police that he was sent for three pounds of sugar by his wife at an early hour this morning but that he was unable to find any of the local grocery stores open at the time. He therefore went to the saloon pending the opening of the grocery stores.

City Employee, Alleged Wife Beater, Fails To Appear in City Court

John A. Lucas, a foreman in the public works department living at 517 Jane street, charged with assault upon his wife, Mary, yesterday, this morning forfeited \$50 in the city court rather than face the charge. It is understood that the authorities will show him leniency and a capias will not be issued.

## GREECE READY TO MEET ALLIES' DEMANDS, SAYS NEW NOTE TO ENTENTE

Neutrality Will Be Preserved, is Text of Message To Paris—French and British Steamers Are Hit By Torpedoes in German Blockade.

Paris, Nov. 29.—The Greek government's reply to the latest note of the entente powers was delivered Sunday, says a Havas despatch from Athens.

READY TO MEET DEMANDS. London, Nov. 29.—The Greek government is ready to discuss the proposition made by the entente powers and satisfy all demands which will not compromise its neutrality, says an Athens despatch to the Exchange Telegraph company.

FRENCH AND BRITISH STEAMERS TORPEDOED. Marseilles, Nov. 29.—The French steamship Omara has been sunk in the Mediterranean by a submarine. No news has been received of 20 members of the crew and it is feared they have perished.

There are no records of the recent movements of the Omara. She was built in 1872 at Laseyrie. Her gross tonnage was 155.

London, Nov. 29.—The French steamship Algeria has been sunk. Twenty-nine members of her crew are missing. Eight were saved. The British steamship Tani has been sunk. Her crew was landed.

KAISER VISITS VIENNA. Berlin, Nov. 29.—Emperor William arrived at Vienna today and paid a personal visit to Emperor Francis Joseph at Schoofbrunn Castle.

KITCHENER IN PARIS. Paris, Nov. 29.—Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, British secretary of state

## CANADA SEIZURE SENDS WHEAT UP IN U.S. MARKETS

Five Cent Advance Predicted and Trading is Nervous on Outlook.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Wheat jumped in price today as a result of the Canadian government's seizure of 30 million bushels of wheat. Reactions, however, that a five cent advance had been added to values here right at the start were not verified, the extreme opening changes being 2 1/2 cents.

Reactions from the initial top figures quickly took place and the market became a broad, general one with feeling decidedly.

JUMP IN MINNEAPOLIS. Minneapolis, Nov. 29.—Wheat took an upward turn here today in consequence of the action yesterday of the Canadian government. December opened at 101, two cents above Saturday's close. May opened at 103 1/2 to 1 1/2 above Saturday's close.

KANSAS CITY FEELS RISE. Kansas City, Nov. 29.—First sales for December wheat on the Kansas City board of trade were at 99 cents, a rise of 2 1/2 over Saturday's. May sold at 103 1/2 @ 104. December, soon dropping to 98 while May drifted downward on liberal offerings.

NEW YORK MARKET ACTIVE. New York, Nov. 29.—The wheat market opened here active and somewhat excited today with prices from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 cents higher. The action of the Canadian government in commandeering all high grade wheat in elevators in the Dominion east of Fort William. There was considerable speculation buying here today, but it was believed in some quarters that the Canadian government's action would eventually operate against prices on American wheat.

STANDSTILL IN CANADA. Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 29.—There was no option market here today except for coarse grains. It was not yet decided at 10 o'clock this morning when there would be a cash market for wheat.

Discharge Mondrevsky From St. Vincent's

Joseph Mondrevsky of 437 Broad street and brother of Robert Mondrevsky who was murdered shortly after midnight one week ago was discharged from St. Vincent's hospital this afternoon. Mondrevsky received a bullet wound over the heart and was grazed by another on the forehead while resisting the attack of two men supposed to be burglars.

Fine Man Who Tried To Carb Off Blocks Belonging to City

Jacob Pekar, 41 years old, of Seymour street, Stratford, was fined \$3 and costs in city court today when charged with theft of 19 Belgian blocks, the property of the city. Pekar was loading his peddling wagon with the blocks when apprehended by policeman Denis Kelle.

## BRITISH HOPE TO SAVE THEIR ALLIES IN SERBIA

London, Nov. 29.—The British public is not inclined to accept the German contention that the Serbian campaign of the central powers has been brought to a successful conclusion. The hope is expressed here that the wintry weather will give time for reinforcing the Anglo-French troops until they are strong enough to assume the offensive before the invaders have consolidated their positions in Serbia. Russia also is counted on to play a part in these operations.

In the meantime, the only active military operations seem to be centering around Monastir, the fate of which is obscure. The many contradictory reports on this subject vary in the assertion that the city is still in the hands of the Serbians.

Further to the north it is reported the Serbian armies, divided into two sections, are retreating into Albania and Montenegro. It is not yet apparent whether Austro-German forces are to be sent against the Anglo-French lines north of Saloniki but at the other extreme of the Balkan front the Montenegrins are expecting a heavy attack from the Austrians.

The entente ministers at Athens said to have received the reply of Greece to their second note. Greece is reported to have promised to meet all demands which do not threaten to compromise her neutrality. An unmistakable bull bellow along the eastern front. From the west come official reports of a lively sea skirmish off the Belgian coast.

## MELLEN SAYS HE WOULDN'T TOUCH BILLIARD PROFITS

Meriden Man Offered Him Gift of \$50,000; Refused it, Says Witness.

New York, Nov. 29.—An attempt by government counsel to impugn the testimony of Charles S. Mellen, their own witness, marked the resumption today of the trial of William Rockefeller and 16 other former directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, charged with criminal violation of the Sherman law.

The government sought to prove that certain minutes of the board which Mellen testified last week were incorrect did in fact accurately report the action taken at the meeting. The minutes purported to approve the settlement made by Mellen with John L. Billard, the man who held the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, a monument to the settlement that handled it in the memorable conflict. It was largely through the efforts of Mr. Billard that this money was obtained from the war department. Mr. Miller has taken an active interest in every movement to secure monuments, memorials and pensions for veterans of the Civil War.

R. L. Batta, for the government, told the court that J. G. Parker, the secretary who wrote the minutes, also made a stenographic record of the proceedings which, he intimated, differed from the official record.

"Where is Mr. Parker now?" asked the government examiner.

"I don't know. He's dead," replied Mr. Mellen.

"Can you make a statement as to his integrity, his honesty and his accuracy?"

"He was very accurate," replied the witness after the court had ruled that he need not answer as to the first two qualifications.

The government showed the witness a copy of Parker's notes which it expects to put into evidence later.

"Did not Billard assign the stock to the New England Navigation Co.?" He did not. The stock was endorsed to me in black.

The witness said that he thereafter held the stock and the securities of the Billard company in a sealed envelope until 1911, when a resolution was passed which closed up the whole Billard affair.

Billard, the witness then testified, was allowed in the settlement \$450,000, of which he gave \$200,000 to Lawyer Brown, of Connecticut, the attorney who assisted in getting the Billard company chartered.

"What was Billard's nominal profit in the deal?" "Two million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Billard wanted to give \$50,000 out of his \$150,000, but because he had helped him so much but I wouldn't take it."

Burglars Find Money Hidden In Ice Box

The meat market of Fred Pfeifer at 1544 Stratford avenue was entered some time last night and burglars made off with \$10 in change which was hidden in the ice box. Entrance was made by forcing a padlock on the rear door.

## MAYOR WILSON PLANS MILLION DOLLAR BOND ISSUE TO AVERT THREATENED RECORD TAX RATE

### FRANK MILLER WILL BE NAMED VETERANS' HEAD

Banker is Unanimous Choice of Members of Elias Howe, Jr., Post.

SERVED WITH BRAVE BAND IN CIVIL WAR

Was in Thick of Fray At Petersburg and Helped Man Famous Mortar.

Frank Miller, president of the City National Bank, and one of the most widely known business men in New England, will be elected commander of Elias Howe, Jr., Post, No. 3, G. A. R., at the meeting of the post Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

In electing Commander Miller the post will depart from its usual custom of advancing officers by seniority and at the same time pay a tribute to Mr. Miller's war record and the many things he has done for the advancement of the Grand Army.

Mr. Miller is a charter member of the Elias Howe post, which was the third Grand Army post in the state. Although he has been asked a number of times to accept office he has always declined. When a number of the members voted on him recently he only consented to have his name go before the post on the condition that other officers in line of promotion were satisfied.

William N. Barnum, the present commander, does not desire another term of office, and Senior Vice Commander James R. Vans is willing to take another term in his present position, therefore Mr. Miller's election will be unanimous.

Other officers of the post, Junior Vice Commander Charles E. Moore, Adjutant F. Fargo, Quartermaster Henry J. Seeley and Surgeon Almon H. French will be re-elected.

Mr. Miller, who is to be the new commander of the post, served with gallantry in the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. He participated in every battle in which his regiment was engaged, the regiment being used sometimes as infantry and at other times in manning huge siege guns.

At the siege of Petersburg he was a member of the detachment which manned the "Petersburg Express," the huge mortar which threw great shells into the Confederate works. This gigantic piece of armament now rests on a stone pedestal at the southeast entrance to the capitol grounds at Hartford, a monument to the regiment that handled it in the memorable conflict. It was largely through the efforts of Mr. Miller that this mortar was obtained from the war department.

Mr. Miller has taken an active interest in every movement to secure monuments, memorials and pensions for veterans of the Civil War. He has been successful in securing the members of the Grand Army that is nationwide and hence his election as commander of the local post will be gratifying news to his friends all over the city.

Members of the post with members of Franklin Bartlett camp, No. 11, Sons of Veterans, placed new flags on the graves of the dead soldiers in the various cemeteries in the city yesterday.

## NEW YORK ALIEN LABOR LAW HELD CONSTITUTIONAL

Washington, Nov. 29.—The New York anti-alien labor law of 1909 under which it was made compulsory for employers to employ only citizens in the construction of public works, was today held constitutional by the supreme court.

Budlong Divorce Suit Slated For Trial on Dec. 7

Some sensations are expected when the divorce suit of Mary Gorman Budlong, of this city against Assistant Manager Herbert A. Budlong of the American Graphophone Co., is heard December 7 in the superior court. This much discussed action has just been assigned for trial and as it is on the special list it is almost certain to be reached.

Mrs. Budlong charges her husband with cruelty and infidelity and she makes the same charges against her. Attorneys Cullinan & Cullinan represent Budlong while Stoddard, Goodhart & Stoddard of New Haven appear for Mrs. Budlong.

The high wind which prevailed along the Delaware Bay was the cause of the death of four sailors who drowned when their boat sunk.

### COMMISSIONERS OF HEALTH WILL NOT BE CHANGED

Mayor Confers With President Stevens—Both Members to Return.

BOARD WILL ASK FOR NEW OFFICE

Also Will Seek Appropriation For Erection of New Slaughter House.

That Dr. Frank W. Stevens will be returned to the board of health and that he will be re-elected president of the board is now assured. While Mayor Wilson will neither affirm or deny the story, that he is to reappoint the doctor it is known that the mayor and Dr. Stevens have been in consultation on several occasions lately, one of the meetings taking place today. It is also reported on good authority that Dr. David H. Monahan, the Democratic member of the board, whose term expires January 1st, also will be reappointed.

Members of the health board will ask the board of apportionment for a large increase in their appropriation, including \$18,000 or \$20,000 for a new slaughter house. The present slaughter house is inadequate and the members of the board believe that if a new house can be located on a site adjacent to the railroad, in Housatonic avenue, north of the new Read school, it can be made not only self-sustaining but a money making institution for the city. With this slaughter house close to the railroad tracks it is believed it will draw patronage from nearby towns as well as from the Housatonic butchery of this city who are the chief users of the abattoir.

It has also been suggested that the new slaughter house be located in the city yard convenient to where the new ice and cold storage plant is to be located.

Among other things that the new board of health will ask the board of apportionment for will be provision for the salary of another sanitary inspector. The common council soon will be asked to pass an ordinance creating such an office.

With the great increase in population which they expect to exceed 40,000 in the coming year, members of the health board feel that an additional inspector will be required and there will be an expense greater than in former years in the matter of conserving the health of people who come to live in the newly developed sections of the city.

For the last fiscal year the health board had a total of \$76,276 to carry on the work of its department. This year the board will ask for nearly \$150,000 including \$20,000 for the new slaughter house.

## BOY MIXES IODINE WITH WATER AND SWALLOWS POTION

Freddie Katz Mistakes Liquid For Vanilla and Now Is In Hospital.

Believing that the contents of a bottle was vanilla, Freddie Katz, of 1707 Main street, aged two years and one-half, mixed a drink of tincture of iodine and water and swallowed it while his mother was washing clothes.

Freddie's mother was attracted by the screams of the child after he had taken the poisonous liquid and when the mother ran to his assistance the boy was prostrate on the floor and groaning in agony. She ran screaming to the drug store of John F. Cody at 1,885 Main street where a hurried call was sent for the emergency hospital corps. The child's stomach was pumped out and Freddie was then removed to St. Vincent's hospital for further observation.

## RIOTING MARKS TROLLEY STRIKE IN WILKESBARRE

Wilkesbarre, Nov. 29.—Rioting broke out again in the car strike here with the appearance of the first car on the Plymouth line today. The crew taking the place of the striking employees were beaten so badly that medical attention was necessary. When the car reached a railroad crossing at Plymouth a score of men hoarded the car and attacked the crew. The motorman ran the car a few blocks as he battled with the mob and when the state police appeared the mob alighted. No arrests were made.

## Scheme of Administration is to Plunge City Into Debt Almost to the Legal Limit to Cover Up Reckless Extravagances of Past Four Years—Half Million of Issue to Be Used For Warrenite, Which Will Be Used For Street Pavement Without Competition.

Unless public indignation causes a reversal of policy, the Republican party, emboldened by its success at the polls early this month, will saddle \$1,000,000 more of debt on the people of the City of Bridgeport.

It will be put over Monday evening at the meeting of the board of aldermen, and the first official announcement of a plan that will cost the city's debt to within a fraction of one per cent. of what the law allows, will be made by the mayor then.

The city's credit will be exhausted almost to the last penny, if the gigantic plan of the Republican leaders goes through. Scarcely a dollar more will be accessible to the community after this year, without violation of a state law.

A special election will be called in January. As a preliminary, Mayor Wilson, in his annual message Monday evening will ask the Common Council, to allow him to name five representative persons in Bridgeport to investigate the city's needs.

The plan is one that is expected to meet with a storm of criticism. Briefly it is this:—

Abolition of the customary one mill tax for new schoolhouses.

Five hundred thousand dollars for Warrenite and permanent pavement—mostly Warrenite.

Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars for new schools.

Two hundred thousand dollars, probably for sewers.

The people of the City of Bridgeport will be asked to pile one million dollars on the already staggering load of debt that they are carrying through the "pay tomorrow" policy of the administration.

One million dollars! This is more than the total debt accumulated in all the years Wilson has been mayor. It brings the total debt up to so enormous a total that anxious inquiry was made, and much figuring was done, in order that the state law, which allows a city to incur itself only to the extent of five per cent. of the grand list, might not be violated.

The people will be asked to vote on the question. A special election will be called. The alluring prospect of new pavement, new schools, new sewerage, new improvements of all kinds, for which the city has always paid as it went along, will be held out to the voters and they will be informed that they don't have to pay for them—just yet.

The tax rate is now 18 mills. The reckless extravagance of the administration with the city's money, the total disregard of the principle that contract awarding should be on a competitive basis and the consequent payment of hundreds of thousands of dollars for Warrenite, threatened to bring the rate up to 25 mills.

Mayor Wilson promised before his first term to keep the rate at 15 mills. It wouldn't do to have it go to 25. So the things for which the city has always managed to pay out of its 15 mills or thereabouts, will be paid for later, somehow, and the side issue of the 15 mills will require in the neighborhood of 18.

Schools, pavement and sewers, probably the most important items in the budget, will not be on the regular tax list and it may be kept at 18.

When the council meets for organization Monday the mayor will read his annual message. In it will be the words of John T. King: "Why pay now?" Mayor Wilson will tell the council that the city is growing. He will say the administration will be improved. Then he will break the news to them that one million dollar bond issue is the project of the administration to ward off that fate that would be inevitable should the tax rate be 25 mills as is threatened. If he doesn't "pull it" at the meeting, Monday, it will be just as healthy an idea, for it will be announced later.

All the "bribe" in the districts will be called together to work for the success of these bond issues. John T. King will marshal his lieutenants, all willing to work, as unclaimed jobs are lying around, and the voters will be impressed with the beauty of the scheme.

A committee of five representative citizens will be named, if the mayor gets permission from the council, for the purpose of considering public improvements presenting their finding to the board of apportionment and taxation.

Mayor Wilson will give three guesses as to the name of the person who will head the committee. It is known, however, that Mr. King will be the chairman. The committee will also contain Charles G. Sanford, president of the city.

(Continued on Page 2.)

## COLT TO FIGHT HIS WIFE'S SUIT FOR SEPARATION FROM SUIT CASE

Rich Ridgfield Woman Wants Lawyer Husband to Pay Large Alimony.

The hard fought divorce suit brought against Harris Dunascomb Colt, a prominent lawyer of Wall street, New York, by Elizabeth B. Colt, a wealthy Ridgfield resident, is assigned for trial before Judge Case in the superior court tomorrow afternoon. The parties have already figured in three court actions, one in Virginia and two in New York. It is declared that the present suit will be contested bitterly.

Mrs. Colt declares her husband is worth \$100,000, and she asks the court to allow her alimony and the custody of a minor child, Harris D. Colt, Jr. She seeks a divorce on the ground of desertion January 15, 1911.

In his answer Colt denies the desertion charge. He says that he and his son are residents of New York state and the courts of this state have no jurisdiction in the matter of the son's custody. The courts of Virginia and New York have already ruled that Colt is entitled to the boy's custody. Colt contests his wife's plea for alimony by stating she owns property in Ridgfield worth \$50,000 and has an independent income of \$7,500 a year.

PERSONAL MENTION

Mrs. E. T. Buckingham, wife of the compensation commissioner, is ill at her home, 2255 North Main street.

The local police, aided by railroad and Adams Express Co. detectives, are searching Bridgeport and neighboring city pawnshops for \$2,000 worth of jewelry belonging to Mrs. John Benjamin, a wealthy Stratford and New York resident.

Discovery of the loss was made through the finding of an empty suit case lying beside the railroad tracks at Bridgeport, by Engineer Eugene Schlosser last Friday when he picked up the case after twice running his train by the object.

Inquiry by the police has divulged that when Mrs. Benjamin shipped the case from Stratford on the 11:02 train last Friday, it contained a quantity of jewelry, among which were a pearl studded dog collar inlaid with diamonds and sapphires, valued at \$400; a gold chain bracelet valued at \$150; Tiffany locket and chain, \$125; two solid bracelets set with diamonds, \$250; two link bracelets set with diamonds, \$100; one link Japanese necklace with pearls, \$100, and other smaller items to the aggregate value of \$2,000.

It is the belief of the police and railroad authorities that the case was near a doorway when the express car swayed about the curve near the avenue and dropped into the freight yards, where someone opened the case and hypothecated the contents.